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Brentwood Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF

HEALTH

FOR

1939

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Brentwood Urban District Council

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor A. E. Hammond, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. S. Venner.

Councillors:

Mrs. E. A. F. Banwell.
W. F. R. Boardman.
H. E. Brownett.
A. V. Cave.
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J. F. Hough, M.A.
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Mrs. M. A. Masefield (Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee).
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J. T. West, J.P. (Chairman of the Health Committee).
R. H. Willard.
S. A. Wilson.
S. J. Wingrave.
M. Wynne.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (Part Time):

B. Fraser Beatson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (late Indian Medical Service and R.A.F. Medical Service).

BACTERIOLOGIST AND ANALYST:

E. V. Suckling, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
The Counties Public Health Laboratories,
91 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.4.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR:

F. G. Spencer, M.R.San.I., Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector, and Smoke Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR:

E. Badcock, M.R.San.I., Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute.

CLERKS AND SHORTHAND TYPISTS:

N. F. Webber.
E. Williams (resigned September, 1939).
Miss P. E Wenden.
Miss D. H. Fraser.

BRENTWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1939.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1939, which has been drawn up as directed by the Minister of Health in the abridged form suitable for war-time conditions.

The outbreak of hostilities with Germany at the beginning of September brought a large amount of additional work in connection with Casualty Services and the Evacuation Scheme, and at the same time during the last four months of the year the normal duties of the Department were considerably dislocated.

Although such additional work is to form no part of this Report, it is nevertheless intimately bound up with the usual activities of the Department. I would therefore draw attention to the devotion to duty of the Sanitary Inspectors in connection with Evacuation and Billeting during the early weeks of the war, matters of real concern to the health of the District.

The clerical staff has also done excellent work. The introduction of ladies into the Public Health Department, a war-time innovation, has proved eminently satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Council for its continuing support and to my colleagues in other Departments for their collaboration throughout the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

B. FRASER BEATSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Ingrave Road,
Brentwood.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	18,166
Estimated Resident Population	
(for estimating Birth Rates)	27,840
(for estimating Death and Infectious Disease Rates)	28,570
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,250
Rateable Value	£246,009
Sum represented by a penny rate	£970

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	315	151	164
Illegitimate	15	9	6

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population was 11.85.

A comparison with previous years is as follows :—

1935	—	10.66
1936	—	12.11
1937	—	11.20
1938	—	13.07

Table showing comparisons with England and Wales and with smaller towns having a population between 25,000 and 50,000.

England and Wales.	Smaller Towns.	Brentwood U.D.
15.0	15.6	11.85

Stillbirths.

Total.	M.	F.
10	5	5

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births—29.41.

Deaths.

Total.	M.	F.
247	119	128

The Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population was 8.61.

Areal comparability factor—0.93
Corrected Death Rate —8.00

A comparison with the corrected rates in previous years is as follows :—

1936	—	8.23
1937	—	8.48
1938	—	9.15

Table showing comparisons with England and Wales and with smaller towns :—

England and Wales.	Smaller Towns.	Brentwood U.D.
12.1	11.2	8.0

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year :—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	15.15
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	12.69
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	66.66
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	Nil
,, ,, Cancer and Other Malignant Diseases ...	36
Death Rate from Cancer and other Malignant Diseases per 1,000 of Estimated Population	1.26

Deaths at various ages :—

Age Group.	M.	F.	Total.
Aged under 1 year	4	1	5
,, 1— 2	2	2	4
,, 2— 5 inclusive	2	—	2
,, 5—15 ,, ...	5	2	7
,, 15—25 ,, ...	2	3	5
,, 25—35 ,, ...	4	3	7
,, 35—45 ,, ...	10	4	14
,, 45—55 ,, ...	14	10	24
,, 55—65 ,, ...	19	18	37
,, 65—75 ,, ...	21	26	47
,, 75 upwards	36	59	95
Totals ...	119	128	247

Causes of Death.

Definition	No. of Deaths. M.	F.	Total.
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Influenza	2	1	3
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	12	4	16
Other Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Syphilis	1	1	2
Cancer	10	26	36
Diabetes	1	2	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	5	7	12
Heart Disease	34	36	70
Other circulatory diseases	4	7	11
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Pneumonia	6	3	9
Other respiratory diseases	2	—	2
Peptic ulcer	1	1	2
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of liver	—	1	1
Other liver diseases	1	—	1
Other digestive diseases	4	3	7
Acute and chronic Nephritis	3	2	5
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc. ...	2	1	3
Senility	5	16	21
Suicide	1	1	2
Other violence	8	—	8
Other defined diseases	15	10	25
Ill defined or not known	—	1	1
Totals ...	119	128	247

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

The usual facilities were provided by the Counties Public Health Laboratory, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., where the following specimens were examined :—

Diphtheria	176
Sputa	449
Typhoid	3
General	9
Total ...	637

Shortly after the beginning of the war an Emergency Public Health Laboratory was set up by the Medical Research Council, in consultation with the Ministry of Health, situated in Brentwood School, only a few minutes walk from this Department's Office. It has proved most useful. The saving of time in obtaining quick reports on specimens is obvious.

Midwives.

There are eight midwives practicing in the area, of whom six are district nurse midwives and two are independent.

Nursing Homes.

The number of registered nursing homes is four.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Council's 20 h.p. Austin Motor Ambulance purchased in 1938, has given good service. It is used for accidents and for general medical, surgical and obstetric cases. The number of patients carried during 1939 was 426.

The potential facilities of the District were of course increased by the allocation of 15 improvised ambulances for Civil Defence purposes. Many of these vehicles proved unsatisfactory and at the time of writing this report have been superseded by others.

Cases of infectious disease are removed either by the Motor Ambulance belonging to the Billericay Isolation Hospital or by Motor Ambulances provided by the L.C.C.

The service for peace time work as a whole has been adequate,

Nursing in the Home.

There are no changes to record.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The Essex County Council, being the Local Authority for Education, Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis, provides a number of Clinics in the District.

These have generally continued to function normally throughout the year, although certain alterations of hours of sessions to meet the inconvenience of the "black-out" and other difficulties were necessary during the last quarter.

The following is a list of Clinics provided, for the first nine months of the year :—

(a) **At the Combined Treatment Centre, Queen's Road, Brentwood.**

Monday morning	Ante-natal Clinic.
Monday afternoon	Children's Dental Filling Clinic
Monday afternoon, 5.00 p.m.	Tuberculosis Dispensary
Tuesday morning	(i) Ante-natal Clinic (ii) Orthopædic After-treatment Clinic
Tuesday afternoon ...	Children's Dental Filling Clinic
Wednesday morning ...	Minor Ailments Clinic
Wednesday afternoon ...	Infant Welfare Clinic
Thursday morning ...	Children's Dental Extraction Clinic
2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons	Eye Clinic
1st and 3rd Friday mornings	Mothers' and Toddlers' Dental Extraction Clinic
2nd and 4th Friday afternoons	Women's Welfare Centre

(b) **At the Parochial Hall, Warley.**

1st and 3rd Friday afternoons	Infant Welfare Clinic

(c) **At the Church Hall, Gt. Warley Street.**

3rd Thursday afternoons ...	Infant Weighing Centre

(d) **At the Bentley Village Club.**

2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons ... ... Infant Weighing Centre

(e) **At the Parish Hall, Hutton.**

1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons ... ... Infant Welfare Clinic

Following the outbreak of war a number of alterations in times and places of meeting had to be made. As such revised list has been more than once subject to alteration it is not intended to give any further particulars in this report.

Mr. B. Whitchurch Howell, F.R.C.S., the County Orthopædic Surgeon makes a quarterly visit to Brentwood to see all new orthopædic cases and to review those undergoing treatment.

The services of an Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist and of a Skin Specialist are available at Oldchurch Hospital, Romford, where children can be sent for advice and treatment.

Hospitals.

The Brentwood District Hospital, a voluntary institution, continues to deal with the normal medical and surgical cases occurring in the area.

Provision for casualties has been made by the conversion of the new Reception Block at Warley Mental Hospital, under the name Warley Woods Hospital, and by the erection of a hutted unit at Highwood Hospital, a London County Council Institution.

Infectious Diseases are treated under the arrangements of the South East Essex Joint Hospital Board at their Hospital in Billericay, with the exception of cases occurring in the several institutions belonging to the London County Council, which are removed direct to the Authority's own Isolation Hospitals.

There has been no case of Smallpox notified in Brentwood for a number of years.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

During the year 25 samples of water were taken and submitted for bacteriological and/or chemical analysis with the following results :—

17 samples taken from public supplies. All samples satisfactory, but in one case a raised bacterial count caused a check sample to be taken.

3 samples taken from shallow wells. One satisfactory, one pumbo-solvent ; one not of high standard of bacterial purity.

5 samples taken from swimming pools ; four satisfactory, one unsatisfactory.

Closet Accommodation.

The following is a summary as far as can be ascertained of the various types of sanitary conveniences existing in the Urban District :—

Water Closets	6,487
Pail and Chemical Closets	1,675
Conversions to Water Closets during the year	1

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Description of Work Carried Out, Year 1939.

Total number of inspections and re-inspections made :—

	Primary Day.	Primary Evening.	Re-inspections.
Housing Consolidated Regs.	21	—	55
Housing (Overcrowding Provisions) ...	8	—	17
Sanitary Defects	209	3	571
Infectious Diseases	34	—	19
Sunday	1	—	—
Verminous or Dirty Houses	26	—	60
Water Supply	3	—	3
Common Lodging Houses	10	—	—
Factories—Power	53	—	9
Non-power	10	—	1
Bakehouses	15	—	—
Shops Acts (Sanitary Provisions) ...	21	—	7
Hairdressers' Premises	2	—	—

	Primary Day.	Primary Evening.	Re-inspections.
Drains Inspected	63	—	39
Tested	6	—	2
Sewers Inspected	8	—	2
Cesspools	58	—	49
Smoke Observations	25	—	—
Nuisance	3	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—			
Licensed Premises	26	—	21
Cinemas	1	4	—
Accumulations of Refuse	21	—	1
Swine, fowls, and other animals ...	2	—	—
Stables	3	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	3	—	—
Tips, etc.	2	—	—
Rat Infested Premises	33	—	37
Council Houses	84	—	1
Ponds, Ditches, Watercourses	15	—	10
Miscellaneous Visits	237	—	2
Evacuation	73	—	—
A.R.P.	1	—	—
Fair	4	—	—
Slaughterhouses	779	5	—
Sunday	4	—	—
Meat Shops	60	—	—
Ice Cream Premises	12	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	43	—	—
Cowsheds	110	—	—
Knackers Yards	14	—	—
Fried Fish Shops	8	—	—
Samples of Milk	139	—	—
Samples of Water	25	—	—
	2,275	12	906

Informal notices served	226
Informal notices complied with	209
Statutory notices served (total)	10
Statutory notices complied with (total)	12
Number of complaints received	171

Shops and Offices.

Shops Act, 1934.

Number of Inspections	21
Number of Re-inspections ...	7

Camping Sites.

Number of sites in the Area which were used for camping purposes during 1939	2
Number of licences issued	None
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in Area at one time during summer season, 1939	70

Smoke Abatement.

Number of Observations ...	27
Number of Nuisances	4

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The following table gives information on the action taken for the eradication of bed bugs :—

Council Houses.		Other Houses.	
Infested	9	Infested	4
Disinfested	9	Disinfested	4

The methods of destruction were similar to those mentioned in the Annual Report for 1938.

Hydrogen Cyanide has not been used in any case during the year.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Clearance Areas.

The Crown Street Area comprising 5 houses and a shop was demolished and the site cleared.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Official Representations for 3 houses for demolition were made.

During the year demolition orders were made respecting 5 houses.

The following properties were demolished in pursuance of demolition orders :—

1 and 2 Honeysuckle Cottages, Priests Lane.
1 and 2 Old Dog Cottages, Herongate.

The four cottages referred to in the Annual Report for 1938 in respect of which an undertaking was given were made fit for habitation in accordance with the Council's specification.

1. **Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—**

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	233
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	859
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	21
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	76
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	15
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	41

2. **Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 36

3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—**

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 8

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
(a) By Owners 10
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
(a) By Owners 2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

4. **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :—**

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 13
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 14
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 88

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 1

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 2
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 16½

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ... Nil

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... Nil

Common Lodging Houses.

No. of premises on Register ... 2
No. of inspections 10

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

During the year 139 samples of milk were obtained from producers and retail purveyors and submitted to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, in order to test the purity of the milk produced and sold in the District.

Summary of Samples taken :—

Number of samples taken from dairy farms at time of production	54
Number of samples taken on arrival at receiving depôts	15
Number of samples taken from retail purveyors ...	41
Number of samples of Pasteurised milk submitted for bacteriological and/or Phosphatase tests :—	
(a) From pasteurising establishment	16
(b) During distribution	13
	139

Number of Producers on Register	43
Number of Cowsheds	80
Number of Cows (approx.)	1,350
Number of inspections of Dairy Farms	110
Number of Accredited Producers	32
Number of Retail Purveyors with premises in the Urban District	18
Number of Retail Purveyors with premises outside the Urban District	11
Number of shops retailing bottled milk only	9
Number of inspections of dairies and milk shops ...	43

Accredited Producers.

Number of samples taken 50

28 samples satisfied both tests.
16 samples failed both tests.
5 samples failed the Methylene Blue Reduction Test but satisfied the Coliform Test.
1 sample failed the Coliform Test but satisfied the Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

Pasteurised Milk.

Number of samples taken 29
28 samples satisfied the Bacteriological and/or Phosphates Test.
1 sample failed the Bacteriological Test having a count of 106,000 per ml.

Tuberculin Tested Milk.

One sample of Tuberculin Tested Milk produced outside the Urban District and sampled on arrival at a receiving depôt failed the Methylene Blue Reduction and Coliform Tests.

Ungraded Milk.

18 samples taken from dairy farms at time of production were submitted for Bacteriological examination as follows :—

14 samples satisfactory.
4 samples unsatisfactory.

41 samples obtained from retailers during distribution were submitted for Bacteriological examination with the following results :—

29 samples satisfactory.
12 samples unsatisfactory.

Licences for Special Designations.

The following licences were granted for the sale of designated milk :—

Tuberculin Tested—8
Pasteurised—5

Two of the above-mentioned "Pasteurised" licences include pasteurising establishments.

The names and addresses of persons licensed to sell designated milks within the Urban District are as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested.

Foleys Dairies, 143 High Street, Brentwood.
Clemoes, J. L., Hatch Farm, Brentwood.
Cowling, T. W., 161 Woodman Road, Brentwood.
Davey, G. & Son, 16 High Street, Brentwood.
Denny, F. S., 61 Ongar Road, Brentwood.
Frost, B. W., 76 High Street, Brentwood.
London Co-operative Society Ltd., 48 High Street, Brentwood.
Pannett, G., Fairview Dairy, Hutton.

Pasteurised.

Barratt, R. F., Park Farm, Herongate.
Davey, G. & Son, 16 High Street, Brentwood.
Frost, B. W., 76 High Street, Brentwood.
Grays Co-operative Society Ltd., Bridge Road, Grays.
London Co-operative Society Ltd., 48 High Street, Brentwood.

Accredited Milk—Producers Licences.

The following producers have been registered for the production of Accredited milk under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders :—

Allison, J. M., Fouchers Farm, Herongate.
Battson, F., Tooks Farm, Gt. Warley.
Batstone, E., Stonyhills Farm, Gt., Warley.
Barratt, R. F., Park Farm, Herongate.
Bird, C. H., Nuttys Farm, Childerditch.
Bloomfield, H., Hill Farm, Childerditch.
Brett, S. (Exors. of), Clapgate Farm, Little Warley.
Calderwood, H., Creaseys Farm, Hutton.
Clemoes, J. G., Hatch Farm, Thorndon Park.
Cook, R., Martines Farm, Hutton.
Creasey, H., Orchard Farm, Crow Green.
Cumbers, W. S. B., Brick House Farm, Shenfield.
Curtis, W. & Sons, Pilgrims Hall Farm, S. Weald.
Dobson, E. E., Canterbury Tye Farm, Shenfield.
Fetherston, S. J., Burses Farm, Hutton.
Ford, F. W., Childerditch Hall Farm, Childerditch.
Ford, W. H., White House Farm, Little Warley.
Gabriel, A., Sawyers Hall Farm, Shenfield.
Gabriel, A., Shenfield Hall Farm, Shenfield.
Legg, E. J., Bushwood Farm, Hutton.
McTurk, G. A. D., Frieze Hall Farm, S. Weald.
McTurk, G. A. D., Rochetts Farm, S. Weald.
Phillips, G. A., Oakhurst Farm, S. Weald.
Rich, A. A., Ellices Farm, Hutton.
Sansome, A. & L., Hall Farm, Little Warley.
Steven, W., Chainbridge Farm, Mountnessing.
Stokes, Mrs. D. E., Coxtie Green Farm, S. Weald.
Towers, Mrs. H., Mount Thrift Farm, Herongate.
Wainwright, C. A., Clydedale Farm, Hutton.
Watt, A. P., Ingrave Hall Farm, Ingrave.
White, W. G., Goldings Dairy, Gt. Warley.
Widdowson, J. H., Calcot Hall Farm, S. Weald.

Dairies and Milk Shops.

Number on Register	... ...	27
Number of inspections	... ...	43

Meat and Other Foods.

Slaughterhouses.

Number of premises 9
Number of inspections 788

Total number of carcases inspected = 7,633.
Number of slaughterhouses in use at end of 1939 = 9.

The method of inspection is laid down by the Ministry of Health in Memo. 62/Foods.

Carcases inspected and Carcases, parts and organs condemned as unfit for human consumption.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Inspected	456	2	117	986	6,072
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	Nil	Nil	1	237
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	2.85	Nil	0.85	0.10	4.00
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned	1	Nil	2	Nil	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	34	1	1	Nil	45
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.65	50.00	2.56	Nil	0.80

Surrender of Unsound Food.

Number of whole carcases, parts of carcases, organs and offals surrendered :—

	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Calves.
Whole carcases, including organs ...	1	10	—	3
Part carcases	4	1	1	—
Head, including tongue	10	25	—	—
Lungs	29	94	—	—
Hearts	1	126	—	—

	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Calves.
Livers	18	121	—	1
Kidneys	4	25	—	—
Mesenteries	6	15	—	—
Spleen	1	11	—	—

Reason for Surrender, with Weight.

	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Tuberculosis	2,101	1,156	—	222
Erysipelas	—	256	—	—
Inflammation	6	468	11	—
Fevered Condition	—	104	—	—
Injury	12	—	—	88
Parasitic or Cystic condition ...	128	30	—	—
Cirrhosis	—	150	—	—
Abscesses	12	—	—	—
Totals ...	2,259	2,164	11	310

Other Foodstuffs.

1 Tin meat	6 lbs.	Decomposition.
1 Leg New Zealand Lamb	4 lbs.	Unsound.
Fish	54 lbs.	Decomposition.
	64 lbs.	

Total weight of meat and other food condemned :—
2 tons, 2 cwts., 3 qtrs., 20 lbs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Number of licences issued to slaughtermen is 28.

Ice Cream Premises.

Number on Register	52
Number of premises used for manufacturing ice cream ...	6
Number of inspections	12

No samples were taken.

Bakehouses.

Number of premises	12
Number of inspections	15

Fried Fish Shops.

Number of premises	5
Number of inspections	8

Adulteration, Etc.

The Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, is administered by the Essex County Council, to whose Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures I am indebted for the following particulars :—

Article.	No. of samples taken.	No. genuine	No. adulterated or below standard.
Milk	45	43	2
Butter	17	17	—
Lard	10	10	—
Compound Lard	2	2	—
Cooking Fat	5	5	—
Margarine	5	5	—
Tea	2	2	—
Coffee	1	1	—
Coffee and Chicory ...	2	2	—
Ham	1	1	—
Cheese	1	1	—
Milk Chocolate	2	2	—
Marzipan	1	1	—
Sugar	3	3	—
Flour	6	6	—
Sausages	11	11	—
Pressed Pork	1	1	—
Pork Pies	2	2	—
Veal and Ham Pie ...	1	1	—
Pepper	2	2	—
Mixed Spice	1	1	—
Vinegar	5	4	1
Arrowroot	1	1	—
Ground Ginger	3	3	—
Ground Almonds	5	5	—
Dried Apricots	2	2	—
Dried Fruit Compo ...	1	1	—
Prunes	1	1	—
Currants	3	3	—
Boiled Sweets	4	4	—
Leaf Gelatine	1	1	—
Pearl Barley	1	1	—
Fish and Meat Paste ...	7	7	—
Dripping	1	1	—
Dried Peas	1	1	—
Zinc Ointment	3	3	—
Boric Acid	2	2	—
Glauber Salts	3	3	—
Seidlitz Powders	4	3	1
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine (Liq.)	3	3	—
Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine (Tablets) ...	4	3	1
Totals ...	176	171	5

Milk :—One sample contained 2% added water.
One sample contained 1% added water.

Vinegar :—One sample was genuine but found to be infested with vinegar eels.

Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine Tablets :—One sample was found to be slightly deficient of the stated amount of Ammonia.

Seidlitz Powder :—One sample was found to be deficient to the extent of one half of its proper quantity of tartaric acid and was furthermore in bad condition.

Each of these cases were followed up. The stocks of Seidlitz Powders and Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine (both old stocks) were all withdrawn by the Manufacturers. The sample of Vinegar was found to have been taken from a barrel which had been in the shopkeeper's stock for about 2 years and was the last pint in the barrel. The shopkeeper undertook not to purchase such a large quantity in the future and to stock only such an amount as he could sell in a reasonable time.

A satisfactory explanation was received from the dairyman as to the presence of added water in his milk, and this on being verified was found to be true, and a remedy applied which would prevent a recurrence.

No court proceedings were necessary.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Despite the influx of population occasioned by the Government Evacuation Scheme, there was no appreciable increase in the incidence of infectious disease over the preceding year's figures. Of the two diseases made generally notifiable in the latter part of the year, Whooping Cough yielded only four cases and there was no recorded case of true Measles during the period covered by the new Regulations.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

In addition to the usual service of free immunisation against Diphtheria for Elementary School children and their younger brothers and sisters, the problem of immunising evacuated children had to be dealt with during the last quarter. I am very much indebted to the Medical Officers of Health of Evacuation Areas for their collaboration in trying to obtain the necessary consents from parents. Unfortunately the response in those areas was most disappointing and though many evacuees had been immunised previously there is no doubt that very many more were denied the safeguard against this dangerous disease by their parents.

The material used for immunisation was, as in preious years, Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules.

While every effort will continue to be made in this District to carry out immunisation there is the risk, as pointed out in my Report for 1936, of increasing the Carrier population while only a proportion of consents to treatment is obtained.

Comparison with Diphtheria Incidence in previous years :—

Year.	Cases Notified.
1935	34
1936	33
1937	75
1938	19
1939	28

Year 1939.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria.

	Completed.	Incomplete.
Under school age ...	27	15
School children	108	4
	135	19

Total number of children dealt with—154.

Owing to the delay in obtaining consents the actual innoculation of evacuees could only be commenced in the year under review in very few cases.

Issue of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

For the treatment of suspected or actual cases of Diphtheria, a free issue of Diphtheria Antitoxin was made to General Practitioners, as follows :—

March	60,000 units
April	50,000 units
May	50,000 units
June	50,000 units
October	60,000 units

The following table shows the amounts of antitoxin which were required in previous years :—

Year.	Units issued.
1935	70,000
1936	70,000
1937	280,000
1938	120,000
1939	270,000

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ..	81	68	—
Diphtheria	28	23	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—
Pneumonia	16	—	—
Dysentery—			
Sönne	1	1 at B.M.H.	—
Flexner	30	30 at B.M.H.	—
Erysipelas	7	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	4	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis ...	1	—	—

Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in Various Wards of the District (Excluding Institutions).

Ward.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
Central	8	11
Hutton	—	—
Ingrave	—	—
Shenfield	2	1
S. Weald	1	2
Warley	2	4
Totals ...	13	18

Incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in Institutions Only.

Institution.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
High Wood Hospital ...	64	4
Hutton Residential School ...	—	2
St. Faith's Hospital ...	—	3
Child Haven	3	1
Brentwood District Hospital ...	1	—
Totals ...	68	10

ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

Disease.	Age Groups.												Totals.
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	
Scarlet Fever	1	3	8	5	8	36	10	3	6	—	1	—	81
Diphtheria	—	1	1	2	1	11	8	2	2	—	—	—	28
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	2	—	7	2	16
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	9	13	3	31
Erysieplas	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	7
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	1	4	10	12	9	51	19	7	19	13	22	5	172

TUBERCULOSIS.—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1939.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1
5	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	3	—	1	2	2	—	—	—
25	4	5	—	—	3	1	—	—
35	3	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
45	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total ...	13	10	1	5	12	3	—	1

SECTION G.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS NOT COVERED BY SECTIONS A—F.

Knackers Yards.

Number of Premises 1

Number of Inspections 14

Factories Act, 1937.

Total inspections—Power and Non-power factories—73

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health. **Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.**

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	62	Nil	Nil
Factories without mechanical power	11	Nil	Nil
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	73	Nil	Nil

2. Defects found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inaffective drainage of floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences—				
Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil
Unsuitable or defective ...	6	6	Nil	Nil
Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	Nil	Nil
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) ...	2	2	1	Nil
Total ...	10	10	1	Nil

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Number of Inspections 33

Number of Re-inspections ... 37

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

No rag flock was manufactured in the District. One upholsterer occasionally uses a small amount. No samples were taken.

Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises.

Number on Register	...	...	24
Number of Inspections	...	...	2

Sanitary Conveniences—Licensed Premises.

Following the survey of the conveniences attached to Licensed premises referred to in the Annual Report for 1938, improvements have been made at many of the premises as follows :—

New conveniences have been erected at 3 premises.

Alterations to the structure and entrance to provide effective screening have been carried out at 14 premises.

The urinals at 14 premises have been provided with flushing apparatus.

In several instances additional water closet accomodation has been provided.

Further improvements to other premises are in progress.